

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A data exchange system over a data transfer network ~~(2)~~ between a receiver station ~~(6)~~ and a data ~~(1\*)~~ server ~~(4)~~ with conditional access, in which ~~the~~ data exchanges over the network ~~(2)~~ are managed and authorized by a control server ~~(20)~~, wherein said control server ~~(20)~~ ~~is associated with~~ comprising:

- means for access to at least two different user management servers ~~(14)~~;

- automatic means ~~(7, 22, 24)~~ forming a catalog of payment instruments, the payment instruments being usable and accessible by a user of said receiver station ~~(6)~~ for the selection, by ~~this~~ the user, of one of ~~the~~ these payment instruments, each of ~~said~~ the payment instruments being associated with a respective user management server ~~(14)~~ each respective user management server providing credit or billing data associated with the respective payment instrument;

- means for exchanging information with the user management server ~~(14)~~ associated with the selected payment instrument to receive the credit or billing data associated with the selected payment instrument;

- automatic means ~~(26)~~—for determining parameters for control of the data exchanges over said network—~~(2)~~ corresponding to the credit or billing data; and

- automatic means ~~(28)~~—of data exchange control over ~~this—said~~ network (2) according to the parameters thus determined.

2. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said means forming a catalog of usable payment instruments ~~comprise~~comprising:

- storage means ~~(22)~~—comprising a predetermined list of payment instruments ~~(10)~~—authorized for access to said conditional access data—~~(1\*)~~;

- data acquisition means ~~(7, 9)~~—relating to ~~the a~~ constitution and operation of the system and of ~~the~~ elements ~~composing it~~ comprising the receiver station; and

- means ~~(24)~~—of establishment of the catalog of at least two usable payment instruments from at least ~~said a~~ list of authorized instruments and of ~~said~~—acquired data relating to the system.

3. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said acquisition means ~~comprise~~ means of analysis ~~(7)~~ of the receiver station, ~~suitable~~—for delivering:

- data relating to the nature of the receiver station~~(6)~~; and/or

- data relating to the exchange capabilities of the receiver station~~(6)~~.

4. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said acquisition means comprise means of connection ~~(9)~~ between the receiver station ~~(6)~~ and the network, ~~suitable~~ for delivering:

- data relating to the means of connection between the receiver station ~~(6)~~ and the network~~(2)~~; and/or

- data relating to the time of the exchanges.

5. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said control server ~~(20)~~ is associated with means ~~(36)~~ of remote interrogation of said connection means~~(9)~~ to obtain said data.

6. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said means ~~(26)~~ of determining the exchange control parameters are connected to means ~~(22)~~ of storing data concerning conditions of access to said data with conditional access ~~(1\*)~~ and to means ~~(16)~~ of storing exchange authorization data ~~(18)~~ associated with the selected payment instrument to establish said exchange control parameters.

7. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said means ~~(26)~~ of determination of the exchange control parameters are also connected to means ~~(8)~~ of supervision of the operation of the receiver station ~~(6)~~, ~~in order to receive~~ receiving, from said means, data relating to the state of activity and/or to the operation of said receiver station ~~(6)~~.

8. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said means ~~(8)~~ of supervision are formed by software means initially stored in the system and transmitted to said receiver station ~~(6)~~ on which the software means reside ~~they reside~~ throughout the data exchanges.

9. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said exchange authorization data associated with the selected payment instrument ~~(10)~~ correspond to one of the elements in the group consisting:

- of temporal credit data;
- of monetary credit data;
- of fixed charge credit data;
- of data volume credit data; and
- of billing data.

10. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising: wherein it comprises

a user management server ~~(14)~~ associated with the selected payment instrument ~~(10)~~ comprising at least one database ~~(16)~~ containing said exchange authorization data associated with the payment instruments ~~(10)~~.

11. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said user management server is a server of a provider of access to said data transfer network ~~(2)~~, said user management server connecting said receiver station ~~(6)~~ to said network ~~(2)~~.

12. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said user management server ~~(14)~~ is a server controlling the physical means of connection of the receiver station ~~(6)~~ to the data transfer network ~~(2)~~.

13. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 10, further comprises:

means of determining a user identifier ~~(12)~~ associated with ~~said the~~ payment instruments ~~(10)~~ ~~in order to allow the identification~~ identifying by said user management server ~~(14)~~ of a corresponding user account.

14. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said means of determining a user identifier ~~(12)~~ are automatic means of identification of the receiver station ~~(6)~~.

15. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said means of determining a user identifier ~~(12)~~ are means of manually inputting an identifier.

16. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, ~~wherein it comprises~~ further comprising:

means ~~(19) of for~~ debiting said exchange authorization data ~~(18)~~, associated, ~~by thanks to~~ said user identifiers (12) to , with said used payment instrument ~~(10)~~, in order to debit ~~these for debiting said authorization data (18)~~ according to the data exchanges.

17. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said debiting means comprise a telephone debiting server ~~(32)~~ connected to another network ~~(30)~~ of the telephone type, said server ~~(32)~~ being accessible by said control server ~~(20)~~, through a programmable call controller ~~(34)~~ and the user management server ~~(14)~~.

18. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data exchange control means ~~(28)~~ are suitable for being interposed between said data server ~~(4)~~ and said receiver station ~~(6)~~ in order directly to control all the data exchanges between ~~them~~ said data server and said receiver station.

19. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data exchange control means ~~(28)~~ are interrogated periodically by said receiver station ~~(6)~~ in order to transmit to it or not an authorization for access to the data of said data server ~~(4)~~.

20. (previously presented) A system for controlling the exchange of data between entities on a network, the system comprising:

a receiver station for the viewing content of instruments stored on a network;

a data server, the data server containing instruments to be retrieved for viewing;

at least two separate management servers for providing credit or billing data associated with a corresponding payment instrument; and

a control server for controlling the exchange between the receiver station and the data server via a catalogue of usable payment instruments, each of the usable payment instruments being associated with a respective management server, and being usable and accessible by the user of the receiver station, the control server determining a data exchange between the receiver station and the data server based on exchange control parameters determined from the credit or billing data retrieved from the management server corresponding to a selected payment instrument,

wherein the selected payment instrument is selected by the user of the receiver station from the catalog of usable payment instruments.